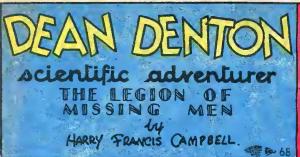
DETECTIVE STUNIES



FRAT APPROAD BY COURT

FIGURE .





DEAN, RETIRING FROM HIS
CAREER AS RADIO'S HIGHEST
PAID VENTRILOQUIST HAS
DEVOTED HIMSELF TO HELPING
HUMANITY THROUGH SCIENCE
FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE,
DEAN, AND HIS AIDE CAROL
KANE, HEAR OF AN ALARMING
NUMBER OF CASES WHERE
MEN HAVE VANISHED

































































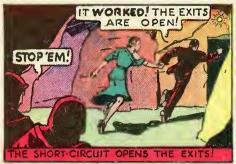
















































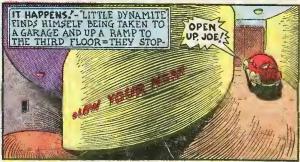












THE DOOR
OPENS INTO
A MAMMOTH
ROOM WHICH
IS LITERALLY
FILLED WITH
"HOT" CARS!

THRUA PEEK-HOLE, BEN VIEWS THE PROCEEDINGS

















BEN MUST EITHER FACE THESE KILLERS OR SUFFER CERTAIN DEATH IF HE REMAINS IN THE CAR!

HE DECIDES TO FIGHT IT OUT!





COLD BEADS
OF SWEAT
RUN DOWN
BEN'S FACE
HE MUST
GET THAT
DOOR OPEN
OR PROWN
LIKE A RAT!
SUDDENLY HE
EXERTS ALL
HIS STRENGTH











HIS SHOULDER PAINFULLY WOUNDED, DEN DES-PERATELY PLUNGES AT THE THUG, AND KICKS HIS REVOLVER FROM HIS HAND!





FACING
OVERWHELMING
OPPS BEN
SUCCEEPS
IN STAVING
OFF THE
FIRST
BARRAGE
OF
FISTS







DISGUISED
IN JOE'S
CAP AND
COAT,
BEN GETS
IN THE
CAR AND
STARTS
SLOWLY
DOWN
THE
RAMP

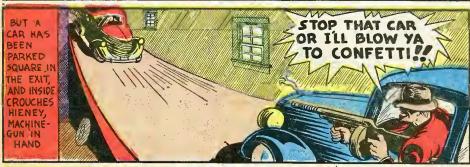






MOMENTARILY BEN HESITATES – THEN PLUNGES AHEAD AT BREAK-NECK SPEED, ROUNDING THE CURVES ON TWO WHEELS

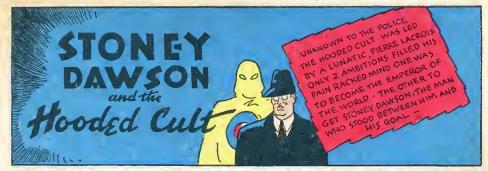
























OUTSIDE OF THE CAPTAINS OFFICE - STONEY
15 ATTRACTED BY THE STEADY DRONE OF
AIR PLANES. THEN IT HAPPENED BOMBS BURST.
BUILDINGS CRUMPLED - THE MASTER HAD
STARTED HIS TARING OF THE CITY -



















-ARMY PLANES - UNDOUBTEDLY LOOKING FOR YOU - BUT WHEN I SHOVE THIS CONTROL IN PLACE - THEY'LL BE LOOKING FOR HARPS!





















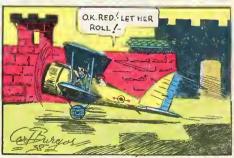


















































- A LAUNCH CHUGGIN' ALONG OUT



HAVE SMUGGLED THE DOPE OVER-BOARD SOMEHOW, INTENDING THAT THE LAUNCH RECOVER IT!

- START UP THE ENGINE! - WE'LL SEE WHETHER THEY PICK ANYTHING UP OUT OF THE WATER!

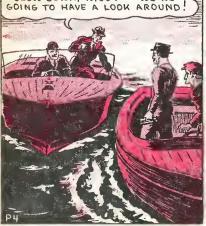
HEY, THERE, - NUMBER 3! - LOOK OUT FOR THAT LOG! OKAY, COPPER!

WELL, THAT WAS ANOTHER BUM GUESS !..... THEY WENT RIGHT BY WITHOUT FINDING ANYTHING ! ..., BUT WHY DID
THEY DELIBERATELY RUN DOWN
THAT LOG ? -- SAY! ... I'VE GOT IT! - OPEN 'ER UP MIKE! WIDE OPEN!



KEEP YOUR EYE ON 'EM! I'VE GOT A HUNCH THAT LOG AIN'T A LOG! YOU MEAN. BE INSIDE IT ?

SLOW DOWN, RICO! -- WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A LOOK AROUND!



AFTER FRUITLESS SEARCH MAC TURNS TO LEAVE THE LAUNCH

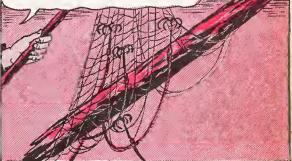












..... WAS SLUNG FROM THE BOW !
- SOON AS THEY 'D SPOTTED THE LOG,
THEY RAN INTO IT, AND THE HOOKS
ENGAGED THE NET!... ALL THEY HAD
TO DO, THEN, WAS TO REACH THEIR HIDEOUT AND HOIST THE WHOLE
WORKS UP OUT OF THE WATER!









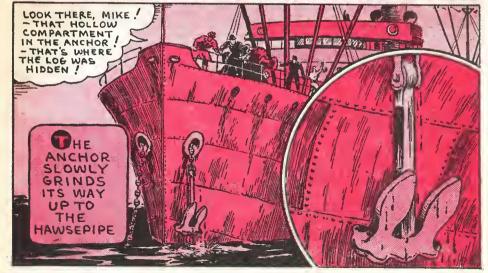
BACK ABOARD THE 'MANDARIN'

-OH, I'LL PROVE IT ALLRIGHT, CAPTAIN!

MR. WARREN, AS CHIEF OFFICER, YOU WILL TAKE OVER COMMAND! - CAPTAIN BAILY IS - ER-INDISPOSED! - DROP THE STARBOARD ANCHOR, PLEASE





























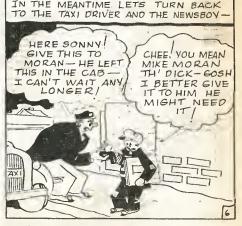


























BLIND Spy

NE by one, and many times, every shred of evidence that Secret Operative Torrence had gathered in investigating Case 128 had been brought up, examined, and corelated by the Operative, and his Chief, Captain Keene of the U. S. Secret Service.

The air was blue with smoke, as the two men leaned back for a final review of the whole

matter.

"I've been a month and a half on this case, Chief," the Secret Operative said, "and I can't make head or tail out of the whole mess."

"Torrence, all I need to say to you is that the secrets of the New Arsenal are leaking out," replied Captain Keene. "We must find out who is passing the information on to the foreign power, and what is more important, how this is done!"

"Give me another week, Chief," pleaded the Secret Operative. "If I don't turn in the infor-

mation you want, I'll quit."

"Easy, there, boy!" smiled Captain Keene to his best Operative. "You've been with me a good many years. I don't think you're against a blind wall, not if you get that think-tank of yours working. Now, get going!"

OWN to the arsenal went Secret Operative

Down to the very same spot which he had been watching for a month or more, in all kinds

of weather, and all hours.

"Hello, Pop!" he said to the kindly old man who seemed to sit by the hour on an old capstan by the dry dock, and who sold an occasional carved wood novelty to whoever would buy. "Hello, Miss Helen," he said to the patient young miss who accompanied the old man wherever he went. For the old man who whittled all day there by the dry dock where some of the Navy's finest ships came for inspection, was blind.

So far as Torrence could find out, the old man had been an old sea hound, and couldn't keep away from the fresh and invigorating smell of the water. His daughter, the young lady who was always with him, seemed to have inherited the love of the sea, for she was forever describing the scenes and the views that were part of the picture before her eyes.

Torrence passed on, into the offices of the Commandant, grunted greetings here and there, and made ready for another careful, and minute inspection of all persons in the Arsenal en-

closure.

WELL, Chief," Torrence reported to Captain Keene some days later, "my week is almost up, and I'm getting worried."

"So you're letting me down, eh Torrence?" Captain Keene asked.

Torrence had a movement of annoyance.

"Why don't you trail down that antique dealer and his wife, you know, the fellow who seems to be exporting antiques from this country, as though we had enough antiques here to send to Europe!"

"You know that antique stuff is fake stuff, Chief," replied Torrence. "He's just taking his customers abroad for a ride, and making a hand-

some profit on the merchandise."

"Well, it might be a good idea to investigate that!" said Captain Keene. "Isn't that another way of betraying our country - sending inferior merchandise for the real stuff - 'made in America.' Why don't you take a run up to Park Avenue, just for the air?"

"The doorman will be getting tired of seeing me hanging around the place if I go there once more," explained Torrence. "Besides-

"Don't tell me you're afraid of that six and a half foot Russian doorman!" laughed Captain Keene. "Why don't you pay that antique dealer a personal visit. Go right up to his swanky apartment, and have a talk with him!"

"Okeh, Chief, if it'll please you."

HE thing that had surprised Torrence in his visit to the Park Avenue residence of the antique dealer Malcolm Curtz was the ease with which he had been 'able to reach the balcony, and peer into the living room.

There, he had seen Curtz, his beautiful wife, and some friends, no doubt, sitting around a large table, and examining with extreme care, not antiques, but carved pieces of wood such

"Those sticks look like the stuff that old Pop whittles on the dock. . . . Well, I'll be blowed!

In no time at all, Torrence was on his way to headquarters. He had to find where Pop lived, and how it happened that Curtz was buying that sort of stuff from him.

OR two nights, Torrence had stood watch behind the narrow window of Pop's tiny little woodworking shop. He dared not go right in, since he had hoped against hope that the old man was in no way connected with the scandal of the military intelligence office. He hoped that the young lady might not see him, as he melted in the shadows and made himself as inconspicuous as possible as she came and went.

But now, tonight, he saw Curtz's powerful new sedan car stop in front of the shabby li-tle shop, and Curtz step out accompanied by his wife. They entered the shop, and Torrence's face was pressed against the begrimed window, looking in eagerly.

He could hear nothing, but he saw Curtz speak to the young lady, and to Pop. And he could see a big smile on Pop's face as he handed Curtz a dozen sticks whittled in the regular, beautiful small bead pattern that Torrence had admired many times as he examined the old man's carvings at the Arsenal. Torrence's eyes lighted up as he saw Curtz give old Pop a bunch of bills . . . much too much, he thought, for the sticks.

As Curtz and his wife, the transaction finished, walked leisurely to their car, Torrence stepped out of the shadows, and said:

"Good evening, Mr. Curtz. I would like to have the pleasure of a ride home with you!" Curtz cursed softly as his wife cried out,

startled.

Torrence, holding open the door of the large sedan, effaced himself that the lady might get in first.

"If you'll permit me, my dear Madam, I'll be your very obedient chauffeur for a few miles to town," said Torrence in mock respect.

"What comedy is this?" inquired Curtz of Torrence, whom he eyed up and down in an anxious attempt to identify him quickly. "I think you might let peaceful citizens go their way unmolested. . . . Adria, sound the hom for alarm. . ."

"My dear Curtz, you'll do nothing of the kin.l. I'm from Captain Keene's office, and I'll back up the authority of this badge with this convenient little weapon!"

"Captain Keene's office?" inquired Curtz maliciously. "And whom may he be, pray?"

"Let us be on our way, Mr. Curtz. The sooner I get you to headquarters, the better I'll like it. You see, my week is up tonight, and I have a report to make to Captain Keene in which you will be most interested!"

But you say you found no written messages, no code books, nothing of an incriminating nature after your search of the Curtz apartment, Torrence," the Chief said. "You know, I can't hold these very respectable people here on your mere suspicion."

"That's right, Captain, I didn't find a thing,

except these -

"You mean these sticks of wood, these things the old man carved?" inquired Captain Keene. "Why, that's the crudest kind of carving, and . I'd hardly class it as antique work. . .

"As an old Signal Corps Officer, you remember your Morse code, Captain," replied Torrence. "Now, if you will take one of these sticks and close your eyes while you rub your finger very slowly over the carvings, you will notice something very interesting-

"Yes, yes, I'm doing it . . ."
"More slowly, please, Captain," prompted

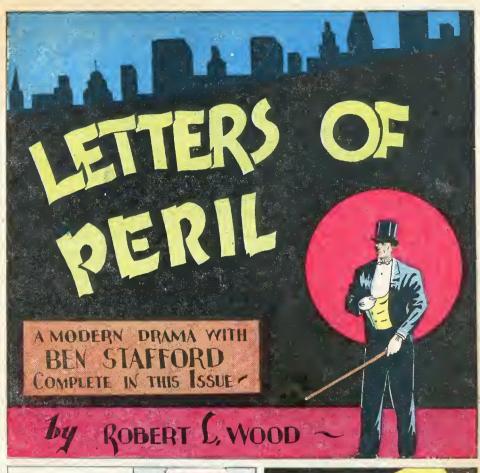
Torrence. "Here, like this!"

"Oh! Big beading and small beading . . . Why, Torrence, it spells out a word . . . Wait . . . C-R-U-I-S-E-R P-O-R-T-L-A-N-D I-N R-E-P-A-I-R I-N D-O-C-K N-O-... Why, that's a military message, Torrence!"

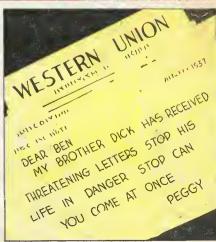
"Yes, Chief, and there's a whole bundle of sticks, carved by the blind old man as he sat at the dock, whittling away unsuspected."

"Blind? How could he know what was going

"Chief, have you forgotten how eagerly the young lady described for him the things going on in the Arsenal?" -THE END .-



















TWO WEEKS, AGO DICK RECEIVED ONE DEMANDING \$50,000 - HE HAS THE MONEY, OF COURSE, BUT REFUSES TO PAY - TWO DAYS AGO HE RECEIVED ANOTHER, THREATENING HIS LIFE IF HE DIDN'T PAY BY THIS





WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME IT WAS MONDELLO? HE'S A BAD CUSTOMER AND CERTAINLY MEANS BUSINESS —









































































IF WE USE OUR HEADS
WE CAN BREAK THIS
SMUGGLING RING ——
GRUBB WILL CRACK
UNDER QUESTIONING
IF WE CAN
GET HIM ON
SOME
CHARGE!
HEADS!
HEADS!

















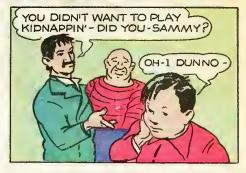






















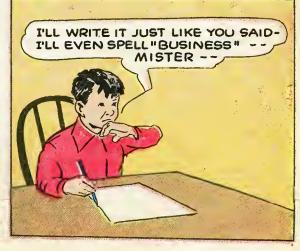
























S A GOOD THING THE KID LIFTED THE TRAP-DOOR-- THE LIGHT FROM UP HERE WAS SHINING THROUGH THE CRACKS OF A DOOR THAT LED ME RIGHT INTO A --













